



7412

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: ) Examiner: W. Bashore  
Richard Humpleman, et al. )  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS ) Group Art Unit: 2176  
FOR A HOME NETWORK AUTO- )  
TREE BUILDER )  
Application No.: 09/104,297 ) October 18, 2001  
Filed: June 24, 1998 ) Los Angeles, California 90067

Technology Center 2100

**RECEIVED**

OCT 24 2001

**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please consider the following remarks:

**INTRODUCTION**

This Preliminary Statement is being filed concurrently with a Continuation Prosecution Application (CPA), a Request for Extension of Time (filed in the parent application) and a Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.131.